The major foodgrains crops that are not likely to meet the targets are jowar, bajra, ragi, small millets, barley and pulses.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The rice production per acre during last five years is indeed increasing as evident from the following table:

Year	Yield (Kg./Hectare)
1995-96	1797
1996-97	1882
1997-98	1900
1998-99	1928
1999-2000 (Advance estimates)	1962

The ICAR has developed a well focused programme to improve rice productivity. The major components of the programme are development of better rice varieties with higher yields and tolerance to pests and diseases, evolving suitable agro-techniques, sites pecific Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) methods and transfer of technology programme.

(e) and (f) To increase the production and productivity of rice, wheat and course cereals, the Government is implementing centrally sponsored Integrated Cereal Development Programmes in Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals Based Cropping System approch. Besides, National Pulses Development Project is also being implemented to increase yield per unit area. Under these programmes/project, incentives are provided to farmers for use of high yielding varieties of seeds, application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation, improved farm implements and distribution of certified seeds, minikits and sprinkler sets etc. In addition, field demonstrations on farmers' holding including training of farmers and farm labourers are organised for effective transfer of technology.

Lack of Storage capacity of Foodgrains

1274. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the food grain output for 1999-2000 is to be 205.91 MT;

(b) the target set for 2000-2001 is 212 MT;

(c) the country is actually short of storage facilities and even this year surplus wheat are rice could not be safely stored due to lack of capacity; and

(d) if so, what parellel steps are being taken by Government to increase our storage capacity to prevent the surplus grain from going waste?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The output of foodgrain for 1999-2000 is expected to be 205.91 million tonnes.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Storage capacity of FCI (Food Corporation of India), CWC (Central Warehousing Corporation) and SWCs (State Warehousing Corporations) as on 01.05.2000 is 262.39 lakh tonnes, 75.03 lakh tonnes and 125.80 lakh tonnes respectively. Construction of additional storage capacity is a continuous process. FCI and CWC construct new godowns every year keeping in view the need for the public Distribution System and availability of plan funds from the Government of India. FCI and CWC have plans to construct godowns with storage capacity of 0.86 lakh tonnes and 2.00 lakh tonnes respectively during 2000-2001.

Agricultural Development Scheme for Assam

1275. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Assam have submitted some schemes for agricultural development to Government for its approval during the year 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the effective measures being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

Pulses Growing States

†1276. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.